

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (currently amended) A camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus comprising:

    a lens assembly having a lens group;  
    an imaging device that converts light from the lens assembly into an electrical signal;  
    a body having a first side face and a second side face opposite to the first side face when viewed from an object to be photographed, the body being provided in series with and behind the lens assembly in a direction of an optical axis of the lens group when viewed from the object;

    a monitor screen provided on the first side face of the body, the monitor screen being rotatable between a first position in which the monitor screen is closed as facing with the first side face and a second position in which the monitor screen is opened as turning away from the first side face; and

    a grip provided on the second side face of the body, the grip housing a recording/reproducing unit, a storage medium for storing a video signal output by the imaging device being loadable into the recording/reproducing unit, the grip being rotatable about an axis almost orthogonal to the optical axis,

wherein, when the monitor screen is in the second position, the axis of the grip is almost orthogonal to the optical axis and almost matches the center of gravity of the camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus.

Claim 2. (previously presented) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the body houses at least the imaging device.

Claim 3. (original) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to

claim 2, wherein the grip has a specific width and a specific length longer than the width, the grip having a first end and an opposite second end both lying on the length, the first end being closer to the object than the second end being, the lens group having an end close to the object, when the grip is rotated so that the length lies in the direction of the optical axis, the first end of the grip being positioned so that the first end is closer to the object than the end of the lens group is and the second end of the grip being positioned so that the second end is distant from the object than the imaging device is.

Claim 4. (original) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the grip is fit in a concave section formed over the lens assembly and the body, the grip being rotatable in the concave section.

Claim 5. (cancelled)

Claim 6. (currently amended) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the monitor screen is rotatable about a first axis that is orthogonal to the optical axis and about a second axis that is orthogonal to the optical axis, the first and second axes being orthogonal to each other, the first and second axes agreeing with each other in the direction of the optical axis.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The A—camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, comprising:

— a lens assembly having a lens group;  
— a body having a first side face and a second side face opposite to the first side face when viewed from an object to be photographed, the body being provided in series with and behind the lens assembly in a direction of an optical axis of the lens group when viewed from the object;  
— a monitor screen provided on the first side face of the body; and  
— a grip provided on the second side face of the body, the grip housing a recording/reproducing unit, the grip being rotatable about an axis almost orthogonal to the optical axis;

—wherein the grip is made up of a fixed cover and an openable cover for housing the recording/reproducing unit, the grip being provided on the second side face of the body via the fixed cover.

Claim 8. (original) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the grip has a specific width and a specific length longer than the width, the grip having a first end and an opposite second end both lying on the length, the grip having a grip belt laid across the grip from the first to second ends, the openable cover being openable while a user's hand is inserted between the grip belt and the openable cover so that a storage medium is loaded in or unloaded from the recording/reproducing unit housed in the grip, irrespective of an angle from the axis almost orthogonal to the optical axis at which the grip has been rotated.

Claim 9. (original) The camera-equipped recording/reproducing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the storage medium is a cassette tape.